
From: HJR153
Sent: Sunday, August 29, 2004 10:25 AM
To: HJR153
Subject: HJR153 - John Thompson

Name: John Thompson
Street: 88 Huber Rd.
City, State, Zip: Newport News, VA 23601
Phone Number: 757-599-4972
Email: plaques_2@msn.com
Utility Type: all
Company Name: Virginia Power and Verizon

Comments: I have felt for a long time that utility lines should be placed underground. We constantly lose power due to auto accidents, lightning strikes, wind , snow and ice storms and other unforeseen events that affect the utility lines. Most of the outages last only for a short time, from a few minutes to a couple of hours but last year it was different. Last year, because of hurricane Isabel we lost power for eight days. I know people who lost it for a much longer time and it could all have been avoided if the utility lines had been buried underground. I spoke to some of the workers from out of state that were working on our lines in my neighborhood. They told me that power could have been restored much quicker if they had been allowed to work like they are allowed to work where they come from. It seems that in their home areas they work at night with periods of rest for safety purposes but just because the sun went down they did not stop working. Most of the trucks were equiped with emergency lighting so that they could work safely after dark. I realize that burying the power lines would not solve all the problems and would be expensive but in the long run taking the power lines out of harms way would save money and lives. John D. Thompson